

Ppl-18 (9)
Sao Paulo

RECEIVED

Nov 10 9 43 AM '70

CHARGE
DCM
MINECON
ECON
USIS
POL-2
POL/R
SCI
DAO-3
MILGP-2
PSO
CF
BELEM
BRAS-2
PALEGRE
SAULO-2
RECIFE-3
SALV

AMERICAN EMBASSY
BRASILIA, BRAZIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
WITH UNCLASSIFIED PORTIONS A-101

Department of State

INFO : BRASILIA, RIO DE JANEIRO

Amcomgen SAO PAULO

October 23, 1970

IPM Finds Subversion in Sao Paulo Education System

Sao Paulo A-43, 5/18/70

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

On October 21, the Military Board of Inquiry (IPM) investigating charges of corruption and subversion in the Sao Paulo state Secretariat of Education concluded its inquiry and forwarded its findings to the Military Tribunal of the Second Army for further consideration. Headed by Army Colonel Rubens RESSTEL, a noted revolutionary hardliner and presently commander of the Fifth Anti-Aircraft Group at Campinas, the investigating commission determined that a subversive ring had, indeed, been operating in the Sao Paulo school system, named eleven persons as subversives and pointed to three others as being guilty of corruption.

According to the press, the IPM report fixed primary responsibility for the subversion upon Jose Mario Pires AZANHA, ex-Coordinator of Basic and Normal School Instruction. It also denounced former state Secretary of Education, Professor Antonio Barros ULHOA CINTRA as being "compromised" with leftist elements, and in this regard specifically mentioned Isaias RAW, the well known former professor of biochemistry and Fernando Henrique CARDOSO, professor of sociology, both of whom were retired from their positions at USP under Institutional Act No. 5.

It was also noted that Professor Ulhoa Cintra had testified that his only preoccupation had been with the leftist proselytizing of Professor Mario SCHENBERG, the famed former USP professor of physics who also was retired under IA-5.

Enclosure: as stated

WITH UNCLASSIFIED PORTIONS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

POL:RJdeVos:mb

10/23/70

EXEC:FXLambert

Declassified Authority: 43265 By:
Amanda Weimer Date: 05-14-2015

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
(With UNCLASSIFIED PORTIONS)

The IPM report made reference to a separate inquiry conducted by the Federal Police into the subversive conduct of various school officials at the Ginasio Vocacional "Joao XXIII", whereby it was determined that the classes given in that institution "had pro-communist tendencies". This investigation resulted in the removal of the principal, Aurea Candida SIGRIST, and an instructor, Maria Nilde MASCELLANI. Padre Milton SANTANA of Campinas was similarly cited for inciting students through his subversive pronouncements. Furthermore, the IPM denounced administrative irregularities and subversion in the Colegio Estadual Padre Manoel de Paiva and in the Instituto Estadual de Educaçao Albino Cesar. In the latter school, the report stated, subversion and protest demonstrations increased during 1968, and regular teachers had been replaced by leftists who propagandized the students and lured them into the protest movements.

The investigation stemmed from a denunciation made to the Minister of Justice by a teacher, Francisco CID, who previously had been fired from his job at the Ginasio Vocacional "Joao XXIII", a state vocational school located at the interior town of Americana. He charged that a cell of secondary students was active in agitating at the state vocational school "Oswaldo Aranha" and that this cell also served as a point of contact with students identified with CRUSP, the student residential center at USP which served as the focal point for student agitators during violent campus disturbances in 1968. This denunciation led to a preliminary inquiry and resulted in the detention of several state education officials, as well as the abrupt dismissal of Professor Ulhoa Cintra from his position as state Secretary of Education (see Sao Paulo A-43). END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~:

Hardlining Air Force officers directly involved in the investigation process of subversion and corruption (SCGI) told the reporting officer they firmly believed that Professor Ulhoa Cintra also should have been branded "subversive" and said he had escaped being indicted only because of the extreme pressure brought to bear by highly placed family and friends. They also revealed that Jose Azanha, using his key position in the Secretariat of Education, was directly responsible for the rigging in favor of a communist Eastern European supplier of a large tender for supplying equipment to the state school system (Sao Paulo 483). The officers acknowledged that the others named by the IPM were "small fish", but maintained that they were examples of a continuing conspiracy to undermine Brazil's national security.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
(With UNCLASSIFIED PORTIONS)

CONFIDENTIAL
(With UNCLASSIFIED PORTIONS)

A-101 from Sao Paulo
3

Professor Paulo Ernesto TOLLE, the incumbent Secretary of Education, also confided to the writer that there was conclusive evidence that communist elements were operating in the Sao Paulo school system and said that additional IPMs were investigating other possible subversive groups. Exculpating Professor Ulhoa Cintra of "subversive" charges, Professor Tolle said his predecessor had leftist ideas but that his principal transgression had been that of negligence of his responsibilities since he went to the Secretariat of Education only a few hours a day and spent most of his time elsewhere in clinical research. Thus, Jose Azanha was given free rein to run the operation and to infiltrate leftists with the school program.

Enclosed are the names of the persons cited in the report as being guilty of subversion and corruption.

COMMENT: It is hard to appraise the merits of the IMP findings. While the files of the Consulate EO50XI do not contain derogatory information on any of the individuals involved and the "hardliners" sometimes exaggerate, Tolle is intelligent and well-balanced and his views merit respect.
END CONFIDENTIAL

CORRIGAN

CONFIDENTIAL
(With UNCLASSIFIED PORTIONS)

UNCLASSIFIED

ACCUSED OF SUBVERSION:

1. Aurea Candida SIGRIST - Principal, Ginasio Vocacional "Joao XXII"
2. Darcy Paulilo dos PASSOS - lawyer
3. Carmen Maria CRAIDY - secondary school teacher
4. Sebastiana Correia BITTENCOURT GUIMARAES - student
5. Luiz Benedito Lacerda ORLANDI - unidentified
6. Nagib Miguel ELCHMER - student
7. Padre Milton SANTANA - priest at Campinas
8. Jose Mario Pires AZANHA - secondary school teacher
9. Maria Aparecida Lima MARTINS - school principal
10. Maria Tereza Gomes de OLIVEIRA - school principal
11. Gutomar CARAN - secondary school teacher

ACCUSED OF CORRUPTION:

1. ^s Maria Nilde MASCELLANI - teacher at Ginasio Vocacional "Joao XXII"
2. Manuel de OLIVEIRA MAIA - accountant
3. Norma MAYKOT - primary school teacher

§ Also accused of subversion

UNCLASSIFIED